

NEW YORK HERALD

BROADWAY AND ANN STREET.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS TO-NIGHT.

FIFTH AVENUE THEATRE—THE PRINCESS ROYAL.

FOOTHILL THEATRE—RICHARD III.

NIRLO'S GARDEN—ANTONY AND CLEOPATRA.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—DON CARLOS.

FAOLE THEATRE—CROWN OF THORNS.

GRAND OPERA HOUSE—MISS LUCY.

BOREY THEATRE—TICKET OF LEAVE MAN.

PARK THEATRE—OUR BOARLING HOUSE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE—MY AUNT DAN.

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UNION SQUARE THEATRE—THE DANICHERS.

HILLERS THEATRE—PANTOMIME.

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THE FINEST MUSICIANS.

EGYPTIAN HALL—VARIETY.

NEW YORK AQUARIUM.

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COLUMBIA OPERA HOUSE—VARIETY.

THEATRE COMIQUE—VARIETY.

GILMORE'S GARDEN—MELODY AND CIRCUS.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC, BROOKLYN—TANNHAUSER.

TRIPLE SHEET.

NEW YORK, THURSDAY, APRIL 12, 1877.

NOTICE TO COUNTRY DEALERS.

The Adams Express Company run a special newspaper train over the Pennsylvania Railroad and its connections, leaving Jersey City at a quarter past four A. M. daily, and Sunday, carrying the regular edition of the Herald as far west as Harrisburg and South to Washington, reaching Philadelphia at a quarter past six A. M. and Washington at one P. M.

From our reports this morning the probabilities are that the weather in New York to-day will be warm and partly cloudy or clear, followed, perhaps, to-night, by increasing cloudiness.

WALL STREET YESTERDAY.—Yesterday was a day of great excitement in Wall street, and there was a general decline in all the active stocks. The coal stocks and Northwest were the chief sufferers. Gold opened at 105½ and advanced to 105¾, at which price it closed. Government stocks were firm. Money loaned at 3½ and at the opening and then advanced to 6 and 7 per cent, closing at the latter figure.

MAN WAS MADE FOR THE LAW, not the law for man, is the gist of Judge Larremore's decision on rapid transit.

THE SCIENCE THEORY is the most merciful of the many suggestions about the cause of Mr. Orville Jewett's death.

THERE APPEAR THIS MORNING some more of those explanations about street cleaning which are so wonderfully funny—to-out-of-town readers. The city treasury is to blame this time.

A NEW METHOD of settling divorce cases is alluded to in one of our court reports to-day. It is simple, prompt and inexpensive; yet it would seem that the unympathetic nature of modern juris and judges will prevent its general application.

MYSTERY INCREASES in the Scanlon murder case, the only fact made perfectly clear being that all the associates and neighbors of the deceased were of that utterly depraved class from which the utmost brutality is expected as a matter of course.

THE NUMBER of New York city violators of the Excise laws is estimated by one of the Excise Commissioners at five thousand, and the violations continue because the Board has no funds. Why do not the licensed dealers present a handsome purse to the Board? There would be millions in it for themselves.

ANOTHER DISGRACEFUL AFFAIR, that of the burning of Lucy Freeman, is passed from sight by the convenient verdict, "nobody to blame." Moralists will not accept such a decision, however, and the suggestions which the case inevitably offers should have the effect of discouraging that form of vice which is above all others repulsive and destructive.

SOME POINTS ABOUT THE COST OF MILK are distinctly made by correspondents to-day, and the railroad companies come in for the principal blame. We cannot see, however, but that the railroads and the milkmen make their money in the same manner. One waters stock, the other waters milk; an innocent and confiding public bears the entire expense of both operations.

NATURALLY ENOUGH the Assembly tabled Mr. Cowdin's suggestion that bank stock should pay smaller taxes and that some way should be devised for putting the bulk of other taxable property upon the assessors' lists. Legislators like ours do not have money enough to invest in bank stocks; but then, and when there is an exception to this rule, the surplus goes to tailors and jewellers.

AMONG THE CHECKING SIGNS of the season cannot be reckoned the almost entire cessation of applications for free lodgings. Whether the late frosts have found work or prefer to sleep on doorsteps in the milder weather of spring it is certain that the members of this class of beneficiaries have enough character to decline charity as soon as they are able to shift for themselves, and, therefore, that charitable institutions have not been supporting many professional paupers during the winter.

THE WEATHER.—The pressure is now highest over the lake region and lowest off the Nova Scotia coast, where the influence of the recent storm in the south is being felt. As announced in the HERALD this disturbance took a northeasterly course as soon as it cleared the continent, and is now moving rapidly across the Atlantic toward the western coast of Europe and the British Islands. A depression from the Gulf has developed to some extent in the Southwest, with brisk winds on the Texas coast. It is probable that another rain storm will result from the advance of the disturbance, which brings with it an immense volume of vapor-laden atmosphere. The temperature continues high at all points east of the Rocky Mountains except at the mouth of the St. Lawrence. Clear weather prevails in the lake, Middle and New England regions, but is cloudy and threatening in all others. The Mississippi, Cumberland, Tennessee and Lower Ohio have risen. The other rivers have fallen. The weather in New York to-day will be warm and partly cloudy or clear, followed, perhaps, to-night, by increasing cloudiness.

The War Cloud in Europe.

Turkey's response to the protocol seems to make war inevitable. Some vague hope is held out, it is true, that the answer may not be so absolute as to prevent further endeavors to secure a reconsideration by diplomatic pressure, and it appears also to be thought in London that even if the answer is to be regarded as an absolute rejection of the measures of the protocol it may yet be possible to induce the Sultan to withdraw it and substitute one more in consonance with the wishes of the Western Powers. England in this seems to grasp at a straw. Turkish statesmen act with the obstinacy of their race on somewhat irrational views, perhaps, as to the important facts of their position, but certainly with very intelligent conceptions of what it is they have to fear and how best to provide for immediate if not ultimate safety. They have commonly been amenable to English advice when England had armies to send or was disposed to give financial aid, for these were the conditions of defence from stronger armies. Now they are menaced by great armies, and England does not propose to take the field in their behalf. Their danger on the one hand is the Russian, whom they seem to believe they can whip, and on the other hand the fanatical elements that give strength and activity to the intrigues and revolts that are behind the throne. From this danger England cannot save them; from the other she will not. Why, then, should they heed what England says? Why imperil the possession of a crown and the dearer possession of life? Why put these in danger at the hands of the Moslem zealots in order to give way and make a peace that is to be not so much their gain as England's? This seems to be their reasoning, and we believe it will prevent further negotiation.

In order to see why war appears to be a necessary consequence of the rejection of the protocol at Constantinople we must contemplate this act in its relation to all that has preceded it in the history of this now extended negotiation. All the steps of this negotiation have been so many endeavors to prevent the rupture of European peace. As one step after another failed the effort did not appear hopeless, because each opened the way to some new attempt, and thus the case was led on from month to month. But the miscarriage of an endeavor that leaves no step to be taken beyond it, that shuts the door to further parley, is, of course, the ultimate failure of the whole effort, and war follows as the consequence that was from the first regarded as imminent—an event, the occurrence of which was retarded by these many endeavors to preserve the peace by diplomacy. Why war between Russia and Turkey, and the allies either might secure, suddenly become imminent a year ago is known to all who have followed the reports in the papers, but may be recalled now with advantage to the general reader. In the European possessions of the Ottoman Empire there are five millions of Christians and four millions of Mohammedans. This majority is governed as a subject race in the interest of the minority. All the laws and institutions are based on prejudice against the greater part of the population. But the operation of the institutions and laws as sources of prejudice against one division of the people, and as instruments of oppression in the hands of one section of the people to be wielded against the other section, are mild and kindly compared to the operation of religious hatred and rancor that these laws do not attempt to repress and could not repress if they did attempt it.

In this relation of the parts of the population to one another there is of course a constant and ever menacing source of disturbance, not only to the quiet of the neighborhood, but to the peace of Europe. Other nations have taken notice of this and have seen and recognized the necessity of some provision to prevent the regular recurrence of revolt at this point. Ameliorations in the Mohammedan law in its application to the Christian subject have been extorted from Turkey by direct treaty, and in some degree by the dissemination in the Empire of Western ideas. Russia has been the constant advocate of those reforms. No doubt she had some interests of her own behind. England has been the constant supporter of the Moslems against all attempts to enforce reform, and she has clearly also had her own interests to serve. This has been the constant relation of the Powers for fifty years, and was their relation when the troubles broke out two years ago in Herzegovina. Then Russia and Austria and Prussia endeavored to settle the relations of the Sultan to his Christian subjects in a manner favorable to the Christians. England stood in the way, and the effort failed. Then followed the Bulgarian butcheries, and England saw her error. At that moment the invasion of Turkey by Russia—the settlement of the case between Christian and Turk by Russian arms—seemed to become only a question of time. War was then imminent, and the British government, seeing the difficulties of their sustaining the Turk in arms, joined with the other Powers in that common effort to secure peace, the conference at Constantinople. But the Turk had been made too arrogant by his successes in Serbia and the Sultan too timid by the fate of his predecessors. So the conference came to naught. The protocol sums up the position of the Powers of Europe as they stood at the close of the conference, and Turkey might have accepted it had it stood alone. But England required the addition of a declaration as to disarmament, and the Ottomans make that declaration the pretext of refusal. Thus the result of two years of negotiation is that Turkey practically refuses to submit her relations with her own subjects to the revision of other governments and defies others to come in and revise them with the sword, and Russia will accept the defiance. That other Powers will long keep out of the conflict is not certain.

From the humanitarian point of view a great war is not a fact in which anyone should rejoice, though the professional humanitarians commonly do rejoice in wars which they deem likely to further the particular kind of humanity they admire. But wars must be regarded also in their commercial and industrial aspects, and regarding in that way the one now imminent it may be said that we on this side the ocean have no reason to regret its occurrence. It will, in fact, be of at least as great advantage to us as our war was to certain of the nations of Europe, and its beneficial effects may even extend further. If it should involve other nations than Russia and Turkey it must necessarily stimulate every avenue of trade in this country. It is speculated in some quarters that the opportunities a great war will give for the use of capital in Europe will put an enormous quantity of our bonds now held abroad on the market and send them home at depreciated prices. Perhaps it may; but we believe that for every bond thus sold in order to make speculation possible on the decreased prices of European securities another bond of the United States will be bought to hold by the investor who cannot tell what is to become of any European security when a general war comes. However that may be, the advantage we will derive from stimulated commerce and industry will greatly outweigh any disadvantage that is possible. For four years we have suffered from facts that were consequent upon the waste of war in our own country. Now we shall have the waste of war on the other side of the globe. Whole populations withdrawn from the fields and the workshops will make a market for our grain and other products and for our manufactures, especially of war material. Hence must come good prices, plenty of money and solid prosperity to the whole people such as they have not seen for half a lifetime.

Another Smash-up in Wall Street.

The decided tumble in several leading stocks yesterday gives us as good an occasion as we are likely to have for explaining to the uninitiated the extremely artificial character of the Wall street movements and excitements. Northwestern fell yesterday in the course of a few hours from 27 to 18 3/8 in the price of common stock, and from 46 3/4 to 41 1/4 in preferred stock; Rock Island from 95 1/8 to 91 1/2; Delaware and Lackawanna from 56 7/8 to 50. Several other stocks declined considerably, but not so largely. Why does this kind of property fluctuate so strangely in the course of a few hours? Its real value depends on the earnings of the roads, which do not vary from hour to hour, nor even from year to year, in any such proportions as are indicated by the prices of the stocks. To a quiet, permanent, unspeculative holder Northwestern stock, for example, is worth as much to-day as it was day before yesterday, although if he were forced to sell it he would have to part with it at a heavy sacrifice. The road is valuable in proportion to what it earns, which again is in proportion to the amount of its business. Not a ton of freight will be lost to it by yesterday's fever and fluctuation. As an investment to hold, as distinguished from a piece of speculative property to be disposed of, the shares are intrinsically worth as much to-day as they were two days ago. There is, therefore, no real decline in the wealth of the country by such a stampede as took place yesterday in the street. The owners of such shares who wish to hold them, and are under no compulsion to sell them, are just as well off as they were before the tumble. It is not the country that suffers, but only the speculative holders of shares, by such great and sudden fluctuations. The country at large is neither richer nor poorer, the permanent holders of the stock are neither richer nor poorer by the sudden tumbles which bring ruin upon speculative operators who take their chances like other miscalculating speculators and must abide the result of their ventures. Nobody suffers any loss except those who have been gambling in the stock and those whose necessities may force them to sell in so disastrous a crisis of the market.

If men overload themselves with any particular species of property and are compelled to part with it on a sudden they must necessarily be losers. A speculator in real estate who has overburdened himself with more than he can carry, and is compelled to put property on the market in excess of the immediate demands of buyers, cannot get its real value and suffers in the same way. Such disasters are of no general public interest, because they affect only those who are compelled to dispose of the same kind of property at so inopportune a moment. We must not be understood as denouncing the ordinary operations of the Stock Exchange as mere gambling. On the contrary we believe it one of the most useful institutions in the business world. It creates a class of men skilled in understanding values, and the ordinary quotations of the Stock Exchange are the truest index to the real value of the shares which change ownership in that arena. It is a business every whit as legitimate and honorable as ordinary commerce. But it is subject to all the chances, and more than all the chances, of other buying and selling. If a dealer in stocks ventures beyond his depth he must pay the same penalty as a merchant who buys goods which he has not sufficient capital to hold and is forced to sell without regard to the state of the market. He suffers by his imprudence, and the purchasers gain, but the general prosperity of the community is not affected unless the community at large has been seduced by the same speculative mania. We accordingly look upon the great tumble in stocks yesterday as merely one of the ordinary incidents of the market—a simple addition to the numerous wrecks which attend that dangerous navigation.

A New Italian Opera To-Night.

Since the production of "Aida" we have had no novelty in the way of Italian opera. We have had many promises, but no realizations. To-night, however, we are to have something new, thanks to the energy and enterprise of Signor Albites, who will produce "Don Carlos" at the Academy of Music. This work is regarded as Verdi's masterpiece, and is new to the American public. It will introduce to us a new prima donna in the person of Signorina Rastelli, and will afford both Celada and Bertolasi ample opportunity for the display of their great vocal abilities. It is to be hoped that the New York public will show their appreciation of Signor Albites' enterprise by giving him a large and generous support. The charge has been frequently made against the Italian opera that the same series of works were ever recurring, and now that we have found a manager with sufficient enterprise and courage to undertake the production of novelties we certainly should extend to him generous support. Signor Albites has devoted his life to the cultivation of music, and is now making a strenuous endeavor to please the public at considerable risk. No trouble or expense has been spared to present the new opera with completeness and artistic effect. New scenery has been painted, and both the chorus and the orchestra have been strengthened. If the manager receive from the public the support which those efforts to please deserve he may be encouraged to produce still other novelties, and New Yorkers will be able to enjoy a really brilliant season of Italian opera.

The Fire Fiend.

The conflagrations of Chicago and of Boston and the monster fires that have periodically recurred within the last five years lead us to reflect that such calamities are among the peculiar institutions of this very great country. No such losses of life and property are recorded in England, France or Germany. Fire is the familiar fiend of the United States. He underlies the oil region, or, leaping from city to city, makes an excursion into the prairies, jumps over the Rocky Mountains to alight in the silver mines of Nevada; then skips from one far Western town to another and alights on St. Louis. Why is this country so particularly favored? The answer is ready on the lip of every reader. We invoke the demon by our recklessness and carelessness. We give him house room by the reckless manner in which we build our houses. We expose his food to him in every corner. We encourage him by the careless and ignorant way in which our servants treat all matters where fire and lights are concerned. Bad building and careless service are the two procreants of disaster. To one or the other or to both the cause of the destruction of the Southern Hotel at St. Louis will be inevitably traced. Our full and graphic special description of the disaster, published this morning, shows that the fire originated on the ground floor, but we are not yet fully informed as to the source of the calamity, yet we feel assured that it will be ascribed to one of the above mentioned causes. The service of the Southern Hotel was partly Irish, partly African. System, order, carefulness are not conspicuous in the character of these races. But it seems to us that in so immense a building as an American hotel there should be in each district well proven and reliable overseer, a man of intelligence and order much superior to the lower grade of help that we find in this condition. These officers should always be on guard and on the watch, accessible to complaints from the guests and ready for every emergency. There is too much centralization in our hotel system, and much mischief, as well as discomfort, may be traced to it.

But the most fruitful source of fire lies in the defective principle of building. How frequently we hear of what is called a defective flue! The defect is not in the flue but in the blockheads, architects and builders who allowed the ends of half a dozen joists to be stepped in the breastwork of a chimney with those ends exposed to the highway of fire, or so close to the flue that they are heated sufficiently to generate their own flame. Then we build hollow floors, leaving air ways beneath our feet, and we build hollow partitions to enable the fire to run like vermin under us, above us, around us, unseen, unknown, until it bursts out and we find ourselves hopelessly enveloped. All floors should be packed solid between the joists with light concrete, and all partitions similarly filled in. Thus by excluding the air the floor becomes practically fireproof, and neither rats nor mice can annoy us by their ranging over the building. There is no reason why chimneys should not be abolished and replaced with iron or earthenware tubes glazed on the inside—they clean themselves. If buried in a breastwork they occupy little room and no joist can poke its end into such a flue to the danger of the building. Fundamental reforms must be instituted both in the much vaunted system of American hotel keeping and the safety of the construction of all such buildings where five hundred human beings and upward are liable to present a holocaust to the most insidious, destructive and terrible fiend that walks the earth.

Our Official Rip Van Winkles.

Our contemporaries are all suddenly waking up to the fact that the streets of New York are not clean—that they are dirtier now than is known within the memory of the oldest inhabitant. Our astute Police Commissioners have also detected that the streets are dirty, and doubtless are already considering whether they will prepare to make up their minds to solicit their subordinates to consider about preparing to make up their minds to do something about it. The good Mayor Ely is also reported to have found out, chiefly by reading the HERALD "Complaint Book," that something was wrong, and he promises that if some one else will only give him the information in writing he will read it, and prepare to make up his mind to take the matter into serious consideration. In the meantime, while the giant intellects of our officials are in labor and the birth of ideas is anxiously looked for in several departments, while tremendous preparations are being made to receive the "little strangers," we continue to receive contributions to "Our Complaint Book" from fathers and mothers from whose loving arms the grim and indefatigable official, Death, is daily snatching their little ones. The festering piles of filth left on the streets by the neglect of the city officials are the weapons employed to promote this infanticide. The other day we had a communication from "a mother" who told the heartrending tale of the loss of two children from scarlet fever occasioned by the filth of the streets.

Now let us inform these officials that there has been enough of this scandalous neglect of duty on their part. We have had enough

of trifling with public trusts and swindling with public moneys. The Police Commissioners will not be tolerated in a repetition on a grand scale of Professor Disbecker's humbug about the Harlem flats. Then the audacity and impudence of the officials went so far that they dared to deny the existence of a most pestilential nuisance that bid fair to depopulate a large section of the city through the foul stench that loaded the atmosphere of Harlem. Two audacious contractors—Jones and McQuaid—were encouraged by the inactivity or dishonesty of the officials to continue piling up nuisances upon nuisances by dumping fetid loads of the most horrible city refuse upon a portion of the city surrounded by dwellings and actually intended for building sites. The enormity of the job was pointed out by the HERALD, and if there had been justice, honesty and decency among the responsible officials of New York these men would have been indicted, tried, convicted and sentenced to a long term of imprisonment as murderers of the public health. Instead of this they were paid every cent of their blood money. Disbecker's conduct at that time was enough to disgust everybody; but that of the reform Comptroller Green—who haggled so desperately over every penny doled out to the scrub women—in permitting these contractors to take from the public treasury thousands of dollars to which they were not entitled by the letter of their contract shows to what base uses the cry of "reform" can be applied.

We recall this Harlem flat nuisance for the purpose of reminding Comptroller Kelly that he has a duty to perform in this business. He has no right to pay a cent for street cleaning that is not honestly earned. A correspondent the other day asked, "Where is all this money dumped?" We should say Mr. Kelly could enlighten us on the point. The sudden discovery by the Police Commissioners that the streets are dirty would be laughable if the subject were not so serious. In the language of a contemporary we ask, Have these Commissioners been confined in vaults underground or conveyed in balloons through the upper air, "where they could not see what struck every citizen in the face?" The Commissioners whine in a touching manner that they have no place to dump the garbage. We have told them time and again not to dump, but burn it. Suitable furnaces could be quickly constructed in different parts of the city and the garbage cremated without causing the slightest objectionable odor. The trouble with all our officials is that they have not an original idea among them. We respect and like the Mayor, but we are compelled to say that he is showing no backbone in dealing with his subordinates and the abuses they create. Instead of waiting for written complaints he should be the chief complainant. So it is with the other public servants. They lead a lazy, drowsy life; they run in ruts and care for nothing but their ease and their salaries. Our experience of American officials is that to-day we would be riding in old lumbering stage coaches and communicating by canal boat express, instead of travelling by rail and writing by telegraph, if progress depended on official initiative. Private individuals or the newspaper must originate ideas and keep hammering them into official heads in order to have them adopted. Thus the idea of the cremation of garbage, though suggesting a simple plan for getting rid of the filth, is received by the head of the Health Board as something not to be easily understood. He makes the insane counter proposition that the sum of thirty thousand dollars be given him for experimenting on charring the refuse. Does he not wish he may get it? We trust that the officials of New York will take this warning and amend their conduct before it becomes a matter for solemn action by the Grand Jury.

PERSONAL INTELLIGENCE.

Pullman has returned to Chicago. April seems to be putting on airs. Anna Dickinson is not Maggie Mitchell. Governor Palmer, of Wisconsin, has called on President Hayes. The weather seems to say "To dust thou art; to dust thou shalt return." Charles Reed never married; and so did not sacrifice his college living. Horace White thinks that David Davis as Senator is a great improvement over Jack Logan. The Prince of Wales recently lunched on poached eggs, but he owes nearly two millions of dollars. Dr. Mary Walker says she can kick a chip off Anna Dickinson's shoulder without blushing. Lady Theodore's daughter will stand up with Miss Bigelow at Miss Ames' wedding at Washington April 25. Alexander H. Stephens is quite well; and the three-column paragraphical obituaries about him are no longer in type. President Hayes has appointed Mrs. Sellers a postmistress. It is not definitely known whether she is a strawberry blonde or a mulberry. This is what the late John O'Mahony called himself—"Shane MacDonohall Mc Thomas Oig na bh Foradh Uí Mhaghaidh." This beats Anna Dickinson all to pieces. Sir Edward Thornton, the British Minister, arrived at the Clarendon yesterday from Ottawa, Canada, where he has been visiting Governor General Dufferin, and left last evening for Washington. Punch (at a boat race)—"Ada—Mamma, I can't quite make out what those rough looking men are saying; but they must be well educated!" Mamma—"Why, dear? Ada—Well, they all seem to know the French for lady!" WEEKLY HERALD—"To remove stains from marble make a mortar of unslacked lime and very strong lye, cover the stain thickly with it, and leave it on for six weeks. Wash off perfectly clean, and rub hard with a soft brush dipped in cold water." Yawwara's Gnat—"Nothing was so much dreaded in our schooboy days," says a distinguished author, "as to be punished by sitting between two girls." Ah! the force of education! In after years we learn to submit to such things without shedding a tear." Young Tecumseh Sherman, who is ten years old, has for his favorite book the "Army Register." He knows the name and station of every regiment of the army, the rank and station of every officer, and can tell the names of nearly all the soldiers; and he wants to go to West Point. General Sherman will leave to-day for St. Louis, whether he will accompany his family, who go there to reside for the summer. He will be absent hardly more than a week. His preparation for this trip gave rise to the unkind report that the headquarters of the army were to be moved to St. Louis. Nashville American—"A gentleman lives in this city who has had chills and fever every day for four years, during which time he has taken 1,800 grains of quinine, 1,000 grains arsenic, 500 grains echinocidia, 500 grains of Peruvian bark and a good deal of nitric acid, without having any effect upon him. He has been advised to give the town the 'shako' and travel for his health."

TELEGRAPHIC NEWS

From All Parts of the World.

THE THREATENED WAR.

Turkey Preparing for the Inevitable Struggle.

BISMARCK'S "LEAVE OF ABSENCE."

Decrease in Ocean Steamship Traffic—The Rinderpest.

CABLE TO THE HERALD.

LONDON, April 12, 1877.

The belief that the crisis has at last arrived in the East and that Russia is about to put an end to the doubt and uncertainty which have hung over Europe for the last few months is still stronger this morning, and people here are making up their minds that the inevitable war cannot longer be staved off. The diplomatists have not succeeded in settling a question which cannot be definitely solved without overturning the existing state of things in Turkey, and accordingly they are about to disappear for a time from the scene and make way for the men of the sword. The reports that reach us now from the East are all of military preparations and warlike manifestos. The Porte, seeing the evident intention of Russia to fight, is assuming a more stubborn attitude, and the English Foreign Minister informs the Sultan that he cannot count upon the support of England. News of great importance may be expected within the next few days.

GIRDING FOR THE FIGHT.

According to a St. Petersburg despatch, the *Globe* yesterday says:—"Europe probably within the next week will receive clear proof of Russia's determination to attain the end for which her troops have been concentrated on the frontier." The *Political Correspondence*, of Vienna, says intelligence from St. Petersburg denies that a war manifesto will shortly be issued. Advances from Bucharest report that the Turks display great activity in pushing forward military preparations. Twenty-four Krupp guns arrived recently for the defence of the banks of the Danube. Six battalions with horses and ammunition for artillery landed at Varna on Wednesday. Sady's Pacha daily concludes contracts for provisions. Flour is being forwarded to Widin, where several thousand soldiers are completing the outworks. The territorial army of the Vilayet of the Danube is already in arms. A Ragusa despatch reports that there have been continual conflicts for the last three days between the Turks and Mirvites.

It is stated that Captain Burnaby has returned from Kars, and does not think either the Russian or Turkish armies in Asia are thoroughly prepared for war.

The *Times* despatch from Pera says the Princes of Montenegro have telegraphed to his envoys to accept all offers.

THE PORTS WILL YIELD NOTHING.

Safvet Pacha, communicating the Porte's determination to the foreign representatives yesterday, expressed the regret of the Sultan and his Ministers at their inability to follow the well meant advice of the Powers, but both political and financial reasons rendered it absolutely necessary to terminate the present intolerable position of uncertainty. He has also informed the Montenegrin delegates that it is impossible for Turkey to cede Nicos, Kousshi or Kotschitch, because the Chamber of Deputies has rejected their demands for territory. Safvet added, however, that the Senate had still to examine the question. The Montenegrins replied by asking for a final answer on Friday. If their demands are refused, which seems to be certain, they will quit Constantinople on Saturday.

A despatch from Constantinople dated yesterday states that the Montenegrin envoys will leave there on Friday or Saturday. *Le Nord* says Lord Derby's reservation on signing the protocol has been misinterpreted at Constantinople. Lord Derby has since written to Constantinople categorically declaring that the Porte must in no way rely upon England.

A later despatch says the Turkish Senate has not confirmed the Deputies' rejection of Montenegro's demands, but has decided to leave the settlement of the question to the government.

It is stated that Safvet Pacha was present in the Chamber of Deputies when the Montenegrin proposals were rejected. He was asked whether their rejection would cause war, and replied it probably would, though he was not certain.

The *Morning Post* in its leader says:—"We understand the Turkish circular is an elaborate document. Like all Turkish state papers it is courteous in tone and happy in expression, but it conveys in language remarkably clear a determination resolutely taken. In a word the Ottoman government is prepared to face the peril of war rather than submit to demands to terms which it considers could only be imposed upon a vanquished nation after great reverses in the field. The Porte resolutely permanent interference in its internal affairs. It is carrying out reforms and is bent on preventing the recurrence of the outrages of last year; but it demands to be relieved from the pressure which embarrasses its efforts to do justice to the newly inaugurated improvements. It asks for disarmament, is willing to undertake its share of mutual obligation, and is ready to send an ambassador to St. Petersburg, but not an envoy, as if from a vassal to a sovereign."

Now the question occurs, what will Russia do? We may assume from past experience that she will not act precipitately. We may expect Russia will seek to obtain from the consensus of Europe some sanction for its steps."

RUSSIA'S NEXT STEP.

It is reported that the Russian Ambassadors will receive instructions to make known to the governments to which they are accredited that Russia interprets the protocol, under the present circumstances, as binding the signatories to consider immediately those common steps for which the protocol fixed no time. The Russian diplomatists anticipate that Turkey's refusal will provoke action on the part of all the six Powers. The *Standard*'s Berlin correspondent telegraphs that the Russian Ambassadors are sending a categorical summons to Constantinople demanding a decision in three days. Count Andrássy is making the utmost exertions to induce the Porte to yield.

WAITING FOR THE FIRST CANNON SHOT.

The Paris correspondent of the *Times* says just as people were lately too optimistic now they are too pessimist. From all quarters most alarming news is pouring in. Europe seems awaiting the first report of the cannon. It seems impossible that the simple will of Turkey alone should suffice to overturn the laborious work of European diplomacy. Everything, indeed, seems compromised now. There was great discrepancy in the Turkish Cabinet, the Sultan and two of the ministers favoring a pacific reply to the protocol, and only demanding modifications of its expressions. The majority rejected these counsels of moderation. The Porte will not communicate its official reply until Thursday (to-day). The armistice expires on Friday. Consequently only twenty-four hours remain in which to obtain a prolongation, without which the pacific perspective is entirely compromised.

BISMARCK'S LEAVE OF ABSENCE.

An imperial order dated April 10 grants leave of absence to Prince Bismarck until August next. A later despatch from Berlin says:—"President Von Forckenberg has just read in the Reichstag a letter from Prince Bismarck expressing regret that the impaired state of his health prevented his attendance at Parliament, and notifying that he had obtained leave of absence. Herr Hoffmann, President of the Imperial Chancellery, will take his place in the Department of Home Affairs; Herr Von Bismarck in the Department of Foreign Affairs."